

OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

Market Reports Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

Venezuela

The following information is provided only as a guide and should be confirmed with the proper authorities before embarking on any export activities.

Import Tariffs

Venezuela announced its withdrawal from the Andean Community (CAN) in April 2006, which was officially completed in April 2011. In July 2006, Venezuela applied to become a full member of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR). Under the terms of its accession to MERCOSUR, Venezuela had four years to adopt the MERCOSUR Common External Tariff (CET) on all goods, with sensitive products allowed an extension to January 2014. However, Venezuela failed to fully complete the MERCOSUR entry requirements, including the adoption of the CET, resulting in its suspension from the bloc in December 2016. As of June 2017, Venezuela remains suspended from MERCOSUR.

Venezuelan Customs calculates duties on the landed c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) value of the product.

Venezuela Tariffs (percent ad valorem) for Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

	HS Chapter/Subheading	Tariff Rate Range (%)
Yarn		
-silk	5003-5006	10
-wool	5105-5110	5 - 15
-cotton	5204-5207	15
-other vegetable fiber	5306-5308	15
-man-made fiber	5401-5406/5501-5511	5 - 18
Woven Fabric		
-silk	5007	20
-wool	5111-5113	20
-cotton	5208-5212	5 - 20
-other vegetable fiber	5309-5311	20
-man-made fiber	5407-5408/5512-5516	5 - 20
Knit Fabric	60	20 - 26
Non Woven Fabric	5603	2 - 26
Industrial Fabric	59	5 - 20
Apparel	61-62	20 - 35
Home Furnishings including: bed, bath, kitchen linens, etc.	63	20 - 35
Carpet	57	20
Footwear	64	18 - 35
Travel Goods	4202	20

To return to the Foreign Tariff Information webpage, click [here](#).

Importer Registration--Importers of footwear and textile products must be registered with SENCAMER (Servicio Autónomo de Normalización, Calidad, Metrología y Reglamentos Técnicos). Failure to comply could impede importation of the merchandise to Venezuelan territory.

Port Restrictions--Imports of footwear and clothing can only enter through the customs offices at -

1. Maiquetia (airport near Caracas)
2. Port of La Guaira
3. Port of Puerto Cabello
4. San Antonio del Tachira (near the Colombian border)

Special permit requirements--Special permits must be obtained in order to import certain goods for which the government has claimed exclusive import rights. These products include certain apparel and certain consumer durables.

Some types of exports to Venezuela - such as medical devices - require approval in advance by the Venezuelan Ministry of Health - MINSALUD. The approval process, though it can be somewhat lengthy (approximately three to six months), is relatively transparent and routine. The Venezuelan importer or distributor manages the approval and/or registration process, so it is highly advised that U.S. companies verify their importer's or local agent's experience with and knowledge of the process. Only the importer or local representative can request product approval and/or registration from MINSALUD, meaning that the U.S. company cannot do it from abroad.

For information on local customs requirements and documentation, see:

- [Servicio Nacional Integrado de Administracion de Aduanero y Tributaria - SENIAT](#)

Standards

Local standards organization and other resources:

- [Fondo Para la Normalización y Certificación de Calidad - FONDONORMA](#)
- [Servicio Autónomo Nacional de Normalización, Calidad, Metrología y Reglamentos Técnicos - SENCAMER](#)
- MERCOSUR Standards Association, AMN ([Asociación MERCOSUR de Normalización - AMN](#))

Labeling

Apparel, textile and footwear importers must be registered with [SENCAMER](#). Failure to comply could impede importation of the merchandise.

Apparel sold to consumers in Venezuela must have a label affixed providing, in Spanish/Castilian with font not smaller than 2 millimeters in height, the following information:

- Legal name of importer
- Taxpayer number of the Venezuelan importer
- Brand name
- Size
- Care instructions (in international symbols)
- Country of Origin
- Fiber composition with percentages by generic fiber name

Pantyhose, stockings and socks are exempt from the labeling requirements.

The labels must be affixed by sewing or using stickers affixed by heat before the item enters the country. Reportedly, however, sewn-in labels have been replaced in some cases by stickers, apparently without protests by customs.

Certain textiles must have stamped or sewn in one or both sides of the cloth the name of the country of origin in Spanish or English as follows: "Hecho en _____" or "Made in _____." This clearly legible mark of origin is to be placed along the length of each piece of the goods, at intervals not to exceed three meters.

It is strongly suggested that exporters of apparel verify the implementation of the labeling requirement prior to any shipment and check with local brokerage agents in Venezuela.

For additional information on exporting textiles, apparel, footwear and travel goods, click [here](#).

[Return to Export Market Reports](#)